Officer 38.

It is important that all of the facts surrounding President Kennedy's Assassination be made public in a way which will satisfy people in the U.S. and abroad that all the facts have been told and that a statement to this effect be made now.

~~[illegible] why this is important~~

1. The public must be satisfied that Oswald was the assassin; that he did not have confederates who are still at large; and that the evidence was such that he would have been convicted of this.

2. Speculation about Oswald's extinction ought to be cut off, and we should have some basis for rebutting the thought that this was a Communist conspiracy or (as the Iron Curtain press is saying) a right-wing conspiracy to blame it on the Communists. Unfortunately the facts on Oswald seem almost too pat - too obvious (Marxist, Cuba, Russian wife, etc.). The Dallas police have put out statements on the Communist conspiracy theory, and it was they who were in charge when he was shot and thus silenced.

3. The matter has been handled thus far with neither dignity nor conviction. Facts have been mixed with rumour and speculation. We can scarcely let the world see us totally in the image of the Dallas police when our President is murdered.

~~Perhaps these objectives will be satisfied by releasing a thorough FBI report on Oswald. The [illegible] will be that as such it comes from the~~

I think this objective may be satisfied by making public as soon as possible a complete and thorough FBI report on Oswald and the assassination. This may run into the difficulty of pointing to inconsistencies between this report and statements by Dallas police officials. But the reputation of the Bureau is such that it may do the whole job.

The ~~at~~ only other step would be the appointment of a Presidential Commission of unimpeachable personnel to review and examine the evidence and announce its conclusions. ~~This step is unpredictable, might take time, and could place carefully chosen judges~~

This has both advantages and disadvantages. ~~It~~ I think it is worth waiting for the publication of the FBI report and public reaction to it here and abroad.

I think, however, that a statement ~~for the effect~~ that all the facts will be made public promptly in an orderly and responsible way should be made now. We need something to head off public speculation on Congressional hearings of the wrong sort.